



Billingsley Ranch Outfitter & Guide

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SENATE FISH AND GAME

EXHIBIT NO. 5

DATE 1-9-07

BILL NO. SB34

January 8, 2007

To: Members of the Senate Fish and Game Committee

We are in opposition to Senate Bill 34 for the following reasons:

We believe that the bill is grossly unfair to the non resident hunter that pays for the privilege of hunting in Montana. The state Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks derives much of their revenue from nonresident hunters. Limiting the unlimited hunting permits would not only be a loss of income for the FWP but also to the local communities. Local businesses (gas stations, grocery stores, restaurants, motels, sporting goods stores, outfitters to name a few) would see a loss of income. Any loss of income hurts a small rural economy.

For the past 25 years we have operated a successful outfitting business in Northeast Montana. Limiting the number of nonresidents in unlimited license areas would be devastating not only to our business but to the businesses that we patronize in our community.

Thank you,

Jack Billingsley
Billingsley Ranch Outfitters

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